

WASHINGTON, DC- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that a grant of \$224,985 has been awarded to California State University, Bakersfield to prepare low-income, first-generation college students and students from groups underrepresented in graduate education, for doctoral study. These funds are being awarded through the United States Department of Education under the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. It is anticipated that the grant will be for a total of four years.

"This is great news for Cal State Bakersfield," said Costa. "I've often said that the best investment we can make is in education for our young people. It is grant programs like this that will ensure doctoral programs will be available to anyone who wishes to pursue a Ph.D."

McNair Program participants must be low-income, first-generation college students or members of a group that is underrepresented in graduate education. All students must be currently enrolled in a degree program at an institution of higher education that participates in the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act.

Some program services include, research opportunities to prepare for doctoral study, internships, tutoring, mentoring programs with faculty members, seminars designed to prepare participants for doctoral study, academic counseling, assistance to participants in securing admission to graduate programs, financial assistance, and exposure to cultural events and other academic programs not usually available to project participants.